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Washington LABOR MARKET

June 1988

Washington State
Employment Security

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In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

Highlights

Strongest Economy Since 1979

Total employment in Washington State advanced 35,300 between April and May as the economy continued its spring expansion. The increase was greater than normal for this time of the year, and after seasonal adjustment, the job total moved up 7,000. Over the year, total employment in the state surged 121,200, or 5.8 percent, compared with a gain of 1.6 percent nationally. Reflecting the accelerating economy, the unemployment rate in the state fell to 6.2 percent in May, down from 6.6 percent (revised) in April and 7.4 percent in May 1987. The rate this May was the lowest since 1979.

Outlook Encouraging

Unlike 1979, we are not on the verge of slipping into a recession. The economy should continue to benefit from growth in exports because of the decline in the value of the dollar. Aerospace

Volume 12, Number 6

	May 1988* (Prel.)	Apr. 1988 (Rev.)	May 1987
Civilian Labor Force	2,348,800	2,321,600	2,247,500
Total Employment	2,203,500	2,168,200	2,082,300
Total Unemployment	145,300	153,400	165,200
State Unemployment Rate	6.2	6.6	7.4
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.3	6.1

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

is expected to continue to contribute to the expansion, although employment growth in the industry will be considerably lower than in 1987. Even agriculture will be a positive factor this year. Although the amount of water available for irrigation is still below normal, the drought has eased in Washington State. Meanwhile, a severe drought in the Midwest has forced up grain prices which will benefit Washington's grain farmers. The only negative factors are the strikes in the lumber industry which began in June, and the layoffs at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Farm Workers Busy

Agriculture accounted for much of the job growth in May as the asparagus harvest approached its peak and thousands of other farm workers were thinning fruit, planting summer crops and busy in other preharvest activities. Nonfarm employment rose 16,300 in May and was up 82,900, or 4.5 percent, over the year.

Tourist Business Up

The asparagus harvest also contributed to the gain in nonfarm jobs as canneries and wholesale vegetable operations added workers to process the crop. The major increase, however, resulted from an expansion in tourist activity. Retail trade payrolls moved up 5,100 in May with over 60 percent of the increase at restaurants, while

gasoline stations also reported a sizable expansion. Other increases were noted at hardware stores, lumber yards, food stores and apparel outlets. Wholesale employment added 800 in May with the largest increases at vegetable wholesalers.

Over the year, employment in retail trade rose 14,900. Expansions were reported in all segments of the industry, but restaurants added about 4,400 jobs for nearly 30 percent of the total. Restaurants, of course, employ large numbers of youth, and while restaurant employment has grown rapidly in recent years, the youth population has not. As a result, "help wanted" signs are now a common sight at restaurants and other businesses which normally hire young workers. This development also partially accounts for the decline in the unemployment rate in recent years.

Hotels-Motels Add Workers

Added tourist business also helped boost employment in the service industries 3,000 in May. Hotels and motels were credited with about one-third of the new service jobs. Other large gains were noted in agricultural services (including lawn care and landscaping), amusements (golf, amusement parks, etc.), business services and health care. Employment dropped seasonally at ski resorts and firms which prepare income tax returns for a fee.

Business Services Expand Briskly

Service employment was up 29,000 over the year, representing over one-third of the new nonfarm jobs. Business services led the expansion with an increase of 8,900. Gains were centered in personnel supply services, accounting, and computer-data processing operations. Medical services continued its vigorous growth trend with a gain of 8,100. Health care clinics and facilities for specialized treatment accounted for a large share of the new jobs. Social services also posted a sizable year-to-year increase with expansions in child care services, at crisis clinics, and in drug abuse self-help programs.

Construction Expanding

Construction employment continued to expand despite some pull back in home building because of higher mortgage rates. Employment in the building trades was at its highest level in seven years in May, up 2,900 from April and 9,700 higher than in May 1987. All segments of the industry expanded in May, but the largest

over-the-year gains were in non-residential construction, except streets and highways.

Housing Starts Fall

Nationally, housing starts fell to an annual rate of 1,384,000 units in May. Housing starts totalled 1,620,500 in 1987, but many economists believe starts may drop to as low as 1,400,000 units in 1988 because of higher interest rates, high vacancy rates in apartment houses in some parts of the nation, and tax revisions in 1986 which eliminated some advantages of building multi-family dwellings. In Washington State residential construction employment was still moderately ahead of its year-earlier level, probably because of the exceptional strength in the state economy.

More Transportation Jobs

In other nonmanufacturing industries, transportation-communications-utilities employment rose 1,100 in May and 4,400 over the year. In both cases the increases largely occurred in transportation because of the growth in domestic business and foreign trade.

Fewer Stock Brokers

Finance, insurance, and real estate employment added 500 in May and was up 800 year to year. A seasonal expansion in real estate accounted for most of the gain in May, and nearly all of the over-the-year growth was in insurance and real estate. Employment at firms selling securities and commodity contracts declined year to year, which has been about the only impact from the stock market sell-off last October.

Fewer Federal Jobs This Year

Government civilian payrolls edged up 900 in May and 2,500 over the year. Federal civilian jobs rose 300 in May because of seasonal hiring by national parks and forests, while state and local government jobs increased 600 as hiring for seasonal outdoor work offset a decline in education payrolls. Employment in education normally drops in May: fewer workers who leave are replaced with the school year nearing an end. Over the year, federal civilian employment fell 1,500 with the major cutbacks at defense installations. State and local employment added 4,000 year to year with 2,100 of the new jobs in public education, up 1.3 percent. Public school enrollments, however, were up 1.9 percent between the 1986-1987 and 1987-1988 school years.

Growth Continues In Manufacturing

Manufacturing employment rose 2,000 in April and was up 17,700, or 5.7 percent, over the year in May. The major gains in May occurred in lumber (up 600) and food products (up 700). The increase in lumber was less than normal for May, but seasonal growth earlier in the year was greater than usual because of a mild winter and the need to rebuild inventories. Because of the high potential for forest fires last summer and fall, logging was restricted, resulting in a shortage of logs this winter.

Strike Hits Lumber Industry

Despite the below normal seasonal increase, lumber employment was up 600 over the year in May. Widespread labor disputes, however, reduced lumber employment sharply in June.

Food Products Payrolls Expanding

Food products payrolls continued to advanced in May as the processing of the asparagus crop neared its peak in Eastern Washington. Year-to-year growth (up 2,300) was largely due to the operation of new surimi plants, which produce imitation crab and shrimp from bottom fish.

Aerospace Up Again

Aerospace employment continues to expand, although at a slower pace than last year. The job total was up 300 from April and 7,800 over the year. Even without growth, however, the industry creates a substantial number of job openings because of the need to replace workers who retire or otherwise leave their jobs. In May, aerospace employment totaled 98,800 and accounted for nearly three out of every ten manufacturing jobs in the state.

Aluminum Industry Healthy

Aluminum employment was up 100 in May and 1,500 over the year. In May 1987, the refineries in Goldendale and Vancouver were both closed because of low prices and low demand for aluminum. Since then demand and prices have rebounded dramatically, and the two smelters have been reopened under new ownership. On June 27, 1988, the spot price for aluminum ingots in the Midwest was $1.30 to $1.40 per pound compared with $0.735 one year earlier. Because the industry is now operating at near capacity, however, the year-to-year employment growth will progressively narrow in subsequent months.

A Few Losses

A few minor cutbacks also occurred in manufacturing payrolls in May and over the year. Employment in nonelectrical machinery fell 300 in May with the loss largely occurring at one firm. Demand remains strong in the industry, but competitive pressure necessitated a reduction to keep costs under control. Even with the cutback in May, employment in the industry was up 1,000 over the year. Apparel employment dipped 100 in May, but employment remained up 300, or 5.3 percent, over the year. The decline in the value of the dollar has improved the competitive position of many domestic firms in this industry.

Chemicals employment was also down 100 in May, but here the loss was more significant. The loss reflected continued cutbacks on the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, which has dropped industry employment 1,000 over the year. Losses will continue because of the closure of the N Reactor.

AREA TRENDS

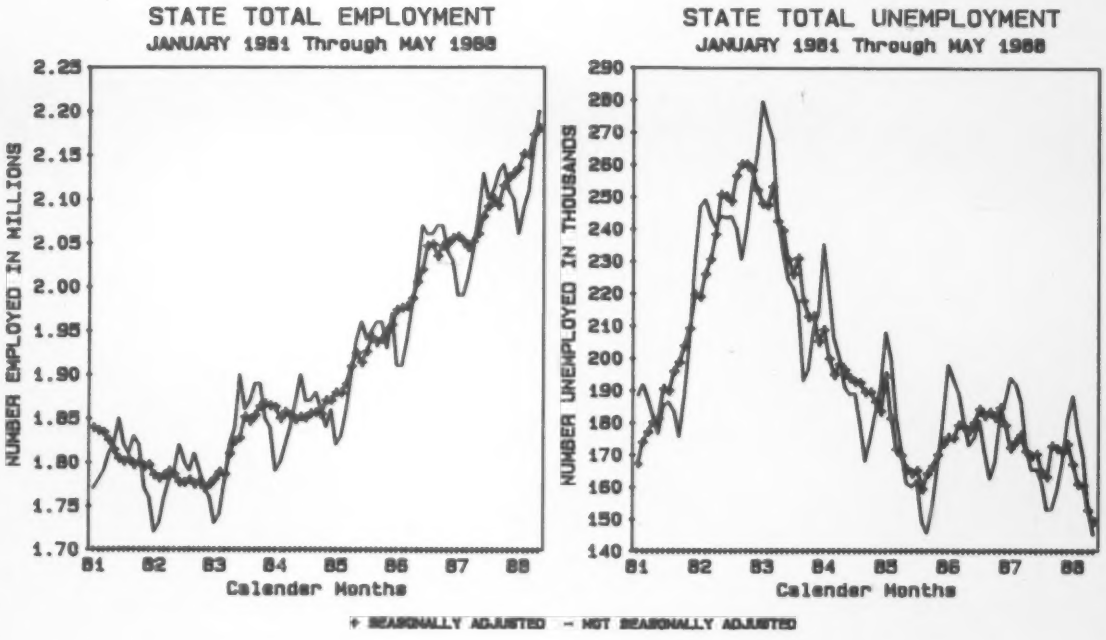
Unemployment Down Sharply in Eastern Washington

Eastern Washington led the downturn in unemployment as usual in the spring because of the strong upturn in agriculture. The unemployment rate east of the Cascades fell from 8.6 percent in April to 7.8 percent in May with employment advancing four percent as jobs related to the harvesting, preserving, packing and shipping of this year's asparagus harvest neared a peak. In Western Washington, the jobless rate dipped from 6.0 to 5.7 percent, largely because of gains in nonfarm industries.

Typical of the asparagus producing and preserving areas on the state's east side were Yakima, Grant, and Walla Walla counties. The unemployment rate in Yakima County fell from 11.3 to 9.9 percent between April and May; Grant County's rate dropped from 9.7 to 8.6 percent, while Walla Walla saw its rate decline from 7.0 to 5.3 percent.

The expansion in agriculture had less impact on the state's major metropolitan areas and reductions in unemployment were more modest there. The jobless rate in the Seattle Metropolitan Area slipped from 5.3 to 5.1 percent; Tacoma's rate fell from 6.8 to 6.5 percent, while the rate in the Spokane Metropolitan Area dipped from 6.4 to 6.1 percent.

The unemployment rate declined in nearly all counties of the state over the year. The largest decline, however, occurred in Klickitat County where the rate plunged from 21.9 percent in May 1987 to 12.2 percent this May. The improvement was largely due to the reopening of the aluminum refinery in Goldendale. The Vancouver Metropolitan Area, which also saw an aluminum refinery reopen, saw its jobless rate drop from 7.7 to 5.8 percent over the year.



INDUSTRY NOTES

More Orders For Boeing

Following record jetliner sales in May, The Boeing Company announced sales in June which pushed the total so far this year above the number sold in all of 1987. Japan Air Lines placed an order for 15 advanced 747-400s worth an estimated $2 billion. Sabena Belgian Airlines ordered 16 short-range 737s at a value of $475 million, while KLM, the Dutch airline, ordered three 737-400s for about $100 million.

At the end of June, orders for Boeing jetliners this year totaled 397 worth $17.74 billion. For all of 1987, Boeing sold 366 jets valued at $19.89 billion. Last year's sales included more 747s than sold during the first half of this year.

Strikes in Lumber Industry Spread

Contracts covering approximately 25,000 loggers and mill workers in the Pacific Northwest expired June 1. In late June about 7,400 were on strike as union members attempted to have wages and benefits restored that were lost in 1986 when the industry was in a recession. An agreement was reached with Bohemia Corp. in Oregon which would restore wages to 1986 levels by 1991. Negotiations are continuing between unions and the Weyerhaeuser Company, which involve wages and benefits for about 6,600 workers in the Pacific Northwest.

Log Shortage Looms

Beyond current difficulties in the lumber industry is an increasing shortage of timber available for harvest. Until young trees are old enough to harvest, 40 to 50 years from now, there will be fewer trees available for harvest on private lands. At the same time, more publicly-owned forest land is being set aside for recreation and environmental purposes. According to the U.S. Forest Service, management plans now under review would reduce the amount of timber harvested from federal forests in Washington and Oregon from about five billion board feet a year in 1987 to about four billion board feet.

Four Firms to Locate In Snohomish County

Four firms selected Snohomish County for new plant sites in June which could create up to 2,800 new jobs over the next decade. Digital Equipment Co. will build a research facility north of Woodinville for its DECwest engineering group. About 500 employees will move to the facility when it is completed in 1991. The company eventually plans to expand and employ up to 2,350 workers at the site.

Leviton Manufacturing Co. will build a plant near Bothell to produce telecommunications equipment which will employ approximately 200 workers. Sanken USA will employ 60 workers at a new $10 million plant which will manufacture computer floppy disks. Production will begin in November at a plant south of Everett. The firm eventually hopes to employ 120 people.

The fourth new firm, Bucher Aerospace of Switzerland, is expected to employ about 30 workers near Everett building aircraft food service equipment. The company's employment is expected to eventually increase to 150.

Yacht Firm For Pasco

A Vancouver, B.C. yacht manufacturer, World Class Yachts, announced that it would relocate its operations to the Port of Pasco on July 15. Approximately 20 employees will be involved in the company's initial tooling operation, but the firm projects $100 million in annual sales and a local work force of 500 by 1993. The firm builds high-speed luxury yachts which sell from $150,000 to $850,000. World Class Yachts signed a five-year lease for 43,000 square feet of warehouse space in June with the Port of Pasco.

Many Hanford Workers Choose Early Retirement And Voluntary Layoff

About 1,000 Westinghouse Hanford workers are eligible for an early retirement plan which will add three years to their length of service when pension benefits are calculated. Those eligible have until July 29 to take advantage of the program. By late June, 204 workers had signed up.

A voluntary layoff program is available to many other Hanford workers which provides monetary incentives based on years of service. The deadline for that program is also July 29. By June 29, a total of 345 workers volunteered for layoff.

Approximately 6,400 jobs will be eliminated at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation by the mid-1990s because of the decision by the Department of Energy to close the N Reactor.

NATIONAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Administration Boosts Forecast for 1988

National economic indicators remained on a positive track in April and May. And in response to the economy's surprising strength so far in 1988, the administration raised its forecast of Gross National Product (GNP) growth to 3.5 percent for 1988 compared with an earlier prediction of 2.9 percent. The forecast of average unemployment in 1988 was lowered from 5.8 to 5.5 percent. Before the GNP estimate for the first quarter 1988 was released showing an annualized growth rate of 3.6 percent, many economists believed the administration's forecast was too optimistic.

Trade Deficit Down

A major reason for the improved outlook is the nation's narrowing trade deficit. In April the merchandise trade deficit fell to $9.89 billion on a seasonally adjusted basis. According to the U.S. Trade Ambassador, the trade deficit has declined more than 32 percent, after adjustment for price changes, since the third quarter of 1986. Most analysts attributed the improvement to the decline in the dollar relative to foreign currencies. Since 1985, the value of the dollar has dropped 50 percent in terms of key foreign currencies, making U.S. goods less expensive abroad and foreign goods relatively more expensive in the U.S.

Consumers Optimistic

The Conference Board, a business-supported research group, reported that consumer confidence in May was at its highest level since December 1969. The Board attributed the growth in confidence to low unemployment rates, more overtime pay, and relatively low inflation. In the May survey, 9.4 percent of those responding said that they planned to buy a new car in the next six months, up from 9.1 percent in April; 35 percent said that they planned to buy a major appliance, unchanged from April; and three percent said that they planned to buy a new home, down from 3.5 percent in April.

Purchasing Agents Report Growth Continuing

The monthly survey of 250 purchasing managers by the Association of Purchasing Management indicated that the economy continued to expand in May. The Association found that production growth slowed slightly from April but that growth in new orders rose somewhat faster. Export business has been particularly strong in recent months.

The purchasing manager's index rose from 54.9 percent to April in 55.1 percent in May. Above 50 percent, the index indicates that the economy is expanding, and May marked the 22nd consecutive month the index was over that level. If the May index level holds for the remainder of the year, it would be consistent with an increase of 3.4 percent in the GNP, according to the Association.

Leading Indicators Down Slightly

The Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the government's main gauge of future economic activity, edged down 0.1 percent in May, its first decline since January. Most analysts, however, were not concerned by the drop. A decline in stock market prices largely accounted

for the drop in the index in May, but stock prices rebounded in June. Without the decline in stock prices, the index would have increased 0.1 percent in May.

Other leading indicators on the negative side in May besides stock market prices were the average workweek of manufacturing production workers, initial claims for unemployment insurance, plant and equipment orders and building permits. Leading indicators advancing in May included orders for consumer goods, the business delivery index, sensitive material prices and the money supply.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984=100)**

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE Year Ending	
	May 1988	Apr. 1988	May 1987	May 1988	Apr. 1988
U.S. City Average	117.5	117.1	113.1	3.9	3.9
	July-Dec. 1987	July-Dec. 1986		July-Dec. '86 to July-Dec. '87	
Seattle*	110.3	106.7		3.4	

* The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties.

** The base period for the index has been changed from 1967=100 to 1982-1984=100. The conversion factors for the All Items, Urban Consumers Indexes on the 1967=100 base are U.S=0.3338279, Seattle=0.3280421.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

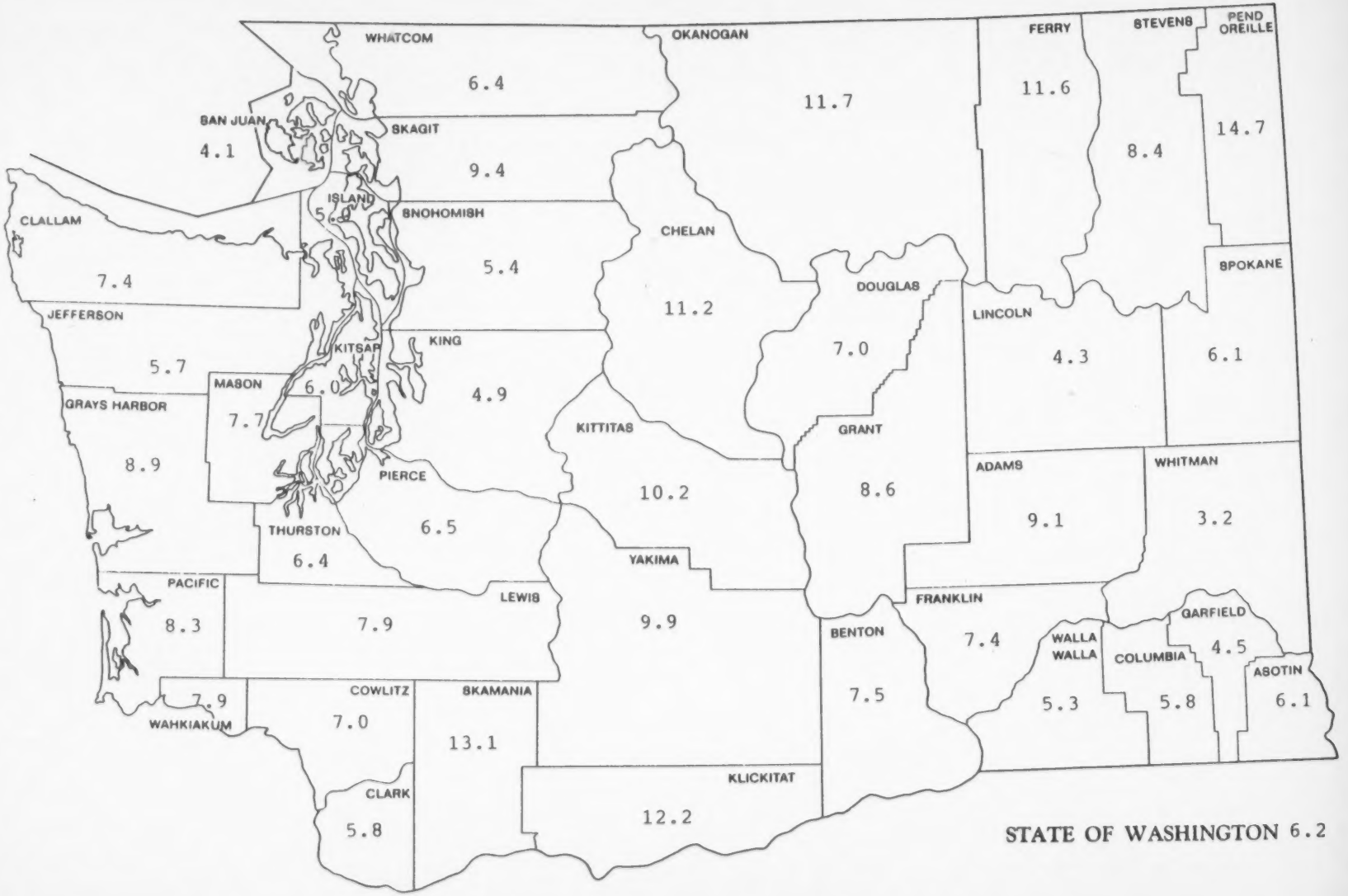
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 1/
(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Industry	May 1988 (PREL.)	April 1988 (REV.)	May 1987 (REV.)	April 1987 (REV.)	Numerical Change: May 1988 to Apr. 1988	Numerical Change: May 1987 to May 1988
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY.....	1919.5	1903.2	1836.6	1815.1	16.3	82.9
MANUFACTURING.....	330.8	328.8	313.1	309.8	2.0	17.7
Durable Goods.....	233.9	232.6	219.4	216.8	1.3	14.5
Lumber & Wood Products.....	40.7	40.1	40.1	38.9	0.6	0.6
Furniture & Fixtures.....	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	0.0	0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass.....	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.3	0.2	0.2
Primary Metals.....	12.2	12.1	10.7	10.8	0.1	1.5
Aluminum.....	8.4	8.3	6.9	7.1	0.1	1.5
Fabricated Metals.....	10.7	10.5	10.1	9.8	0.2	0.6
Machinery.....	30.4	30.6	29.2	28.9	-0.2	1.2
Machinery (Exc. Elec.)...	17.1	17.4	16.1 _3/	15.9	-0.3	1.0
Electrical Equip.....	13.3	13.2	13.1	13.0	0.1	0.2
Transportation Equip.....	113.5	113.2	103.9	103.3	0.3	9.6
Aerospace.....	98.8	98.5	91.0	90.2	0.3	7.8
Other Transp. Equip.....	14.7	14.7	12.9 _3/	13.1 _3/	0.0	1.8
Instruments & Related.....	11.0	10.9	10.7	10.6	0.1	0.3
Misc. Manufacturing.....	5.0	5.0	4.6	4.6	0.0	0.4
Nondurable Goods.....	96.9	96.2	93.7	93.0	0.7	3.2
Food & Kindred Products....	34.0	33.3	31.7	31.4	0.7	2.3
Canned & Preserved Foods.	13.4	12.8	11.6	11.4	0.6	1.8
Apparel & Allied Products..	6.0	6.1	5.7	5.6	-0.1	0.3
Paper & Allied Products....	16.5	16.4	16.4	16.3	0.1	0.1
Printing & Publishing.....	21.0	20.9	19.9	19.7	0.1	1.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	10.6	10.7	11.6	11.7	-0.1	-1.0
Other Nondurable Goods 2/.	8.8	8.8	8.4	8.3	0.0	0.4
MINING & QUARRYING	3.3	3.3	3.0	2.9	0.0	0.3
CONSTRUCTION.....	96.1	93.2	86.4	83.1	2.9	9.7
TRANSP..COMM. & UTIL.....	102.0	100.9	97.6	95.6	1.1	4.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE.....	468.2	462.3	449.7	441.9	5.9	18.5
Wholesale Trade.....	112.9	112.1	109.3	108.3	0.8	3.6
Retail Trade.....	355.3	350.2	340.4 _3/	333.6	5.1	14.9
FIN. INS. & REAL ESTATE.....	108.1	107.6	107.3	106.9	0.5	0.8
SERVICES.....	445.4	442.4	416.4	412.8	3.0	29.0
Health Services.....	135.9	135.4	127.8	127 1	0.5	8.1
GOVERNMENT.....	365.6	364.7	363.1	362.1	0.9	2.5
Federal.....	69.6	69.3	71.1	70.8	0.3	-1.5
State & Local.....	296.0	295.4	292.0	291.3	0.6	4.0
Education.....	158.3	158.8	156.2	156.4	-0.5	2.1
WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES.....	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.0	-0.8

_1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

_2/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

_3/ Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.



STATE OF WASHINGTON 6.2

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

DATE 6/28/88
Benchmark: 1987

	MAY 1988 PRELIMINARY 1/				APRIL 1988 REVISED 1/				MAY 1987 REVISED			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,348,800	2,203,500	145,300	6.2	2,321,600	2,168,200	153,400	6.6	2,247,500	2,082,300	165,200	7.4
Bellingham MSA	60,500	56,600	3,900	6.4	61,200	56,300	4,900	8.0	57,600	53,100	4,500	7.8
Bremerton MSA	73,900	69,500	4,400	6.0	73,800	69,200	4,600	6.2	72,800	68,500	4,300	5.9
Olympia MSA	76,400	71,500	4,900	6.4	76,300	71,400	4,900	6.4	73,700	68,600	5,100	6.9
Seattle PMSA	1,051,500	998,300	53,200	5.1	1,039,900	985,100	54,800	5.3	987,700	929,200	58,500	5.9
King County 2/	834,800	793,500	41,300	4.9	824,900	783,000	41,900	5.1	783,800	738,500	45,300	5.8
Snohomish County 2/	216,600	204,800	11,800	5.4	215,000	202,100	12,900	6.0	203,800	190,600	13,200	6.5
Spokane MSA	171,400	160,900	10,500	6.1	168,500	157,800	10,700	6.4	165,700	153,700	12,000	7.2
Tacoma PMSA	247,300	231,200	16,100	6.5	250,000	232,900	17,100	6.8	236,300	216,800	19,500	8.3
Tri-Cities MSA	70,700	65,400	5,300	7.5	68,000	62,300	5,700	8.4	73,500	67,100	6,400	8.7
Benton County 2/	54,400	50,300	4,100	7.5	52,200	47,900	4,300	8.2	56,400	51,600	4,800	8.5
Franklin County 2/	16,300	15,100	1,200	7.4	15,800	14,400	1,400	8.9	17,100	15,500	1,600	9.4
Vancouver PMSA	114,900	108,200	6,700	5.8	113,800	106,900	6,900	6.1	109,600	101,200	8,400	7.7
Yakima MSA	95,700	86,200	9,500	9.9	91,100	80,800	10,300	11.3	92,100	82,400	9,700	10.5
Adams	7,160	6,510	650	9.1	6,760	6,070	690	10.2	6,930	6,310	620	8.9
Asotin	9,130	8,570	560	6.1	8,760	8,180	580	6.6	8,540	7,840	700	8.2
Clallam	23,010	21,310	1,700	7.4	23,100	21,240	1,860	8.1	22,790	20,800	1,990	8.7
Columbia	3,450	3,250	200	5.8	3,310	3,040	270	8.2	3,240	3,020	220	6.8
Cowlitz	36,310	33,780	2,530	7.0	35,930	33,250	2,680	7.5	35,150	31,890	3,260	9.3
Ferry	2,760	2,440	320	11.6	2,720	2,340	380	14.0	2,560	2,310	250	9.8
Garfield	1,100	1,050	50	4.5	1,010	970	40	4.0	1,150	1,070	80	7.0
Grant	25,830	23,610	2,220	8.6	24,340	21,980	2,360	9.7	25,940	22,730	3,210	12.4
Grays Harbor	25,420	23,160	2,260	8.9	25,110	22,710	2,400	9.6	26,530	23,710	2,820	10.6
Island	19,180	18,220	960	5.0	18,690	17,680	1,010	5.4	18,580	17,510	1,070	5.8
Jefferson	7,770	7,330	440	5.7	7,740	7,250	490	6.3	7,820	7,280	540	6.9
Kittitas	11,500	10,330	1,170	10.2	11,510	10,060	1,450	12.6	11,490	10,330	1,160	10.1
Klickitat	8,190	7,190	1,000	12.2	7,860	6,680	1,180	15.0	7,850	6,130	1,720	21.9
Lewis	26,030	23,970	2,060	7.9	24,970	22,830	2,140	8.6	24,290	21,800	2,490	10.3
Lincoln	4,390	4,200	190	4.3	4,010	3,790	220	5.5	4,510	4,240	270	6.0
Mason	12,480	11,520	960	7.7	12,600	11,590	1,010	8.0	12,560	11,500	1,060	8.4
Okanogan	15,660	13,830	1,830	11.7	15,280	13,250	2,030	13.3	14,610	12,850	1,760	12.0
Pacific	6,510	5,970	540	8.3	6,400	5,830	570	8.9	6,510	5,880	630	9.7
Pend Oreille	3,060	2,610	450	14.7	3,040	2,500	540	17.8	3,020	2,550	470	15.6
San Juan	5,560	5,330	230	4.1	5,390	5,140	250	4.6	5,200	4,940	260	5.0
Skagit	32,620	29,540	3,080	9.4	32,760	29,280	3,480	10.6	32,030	28,450	3,580	11.2
Skamania	2,450	2,130	320	13.1	2,570	2,190	380	14.8	2,330	1,950	380	16.3
Stevens	11,600	10,630	970	8.4	11,460	10,190	1,270	11.1	11,480	10,210	1,270	11.1
Wahkiakum	1,140	1,050	90	7.9	1,130	1,040	90	8.0	1,140	1,040	100	8.8
Walla Walla	25,600	24,250	1,350	5.3	24,610	22,880	1,730	7.0	24,940	23,300	1,640	6.6
Wenatchee Labor Area	39,620	35,680	3,940	9.9	38,870	35,070	3,800	9.8	38,520	34,150	4,370	11.3
Chelan County 2/	27,210	24,150	3,060	11.2	26,740	23,730	3,010	11.3	26,290	23,110	3,180	12.1
Douglas County 2/	12,410	11,540	870	7.0	12,130	11,340	790	6.5	12,230	11,040	1,190	9.7
Whitman	18,980	18,370	610	3.2	18,910	18,370	540	2.9	18,790	18,090	700	3.7

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series.

2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

June 28, 1988
Benchmark: 1987

	MAY 1988 PRELIMINARY 1/				APRIL 1988 REVISED 1/			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,346,200	2,207,900	138,300	5.9	2,324,200	2,175,700	148,500	6.4
Bellingham MSA	60,400	56,700	3,700	6.1	61,200	56,500	4,700	7.7
Bremerton MSA	73,800	69,600	4,200	5.7	73,900	69,500	4,400	6.0
Olympia MSA	76,300	71,600	4,700	6.2	76,400	71,600	4,800	6.3
Seattle PMSA	1,050,900	1,000,300	50,600	4.8	1,041,700	988,600	53,100	5.1
King County 2/	834,500	795,100	39,400	4.7	826,300	785,700	40,600	4.9
Snohomish County 2/	216,500	205,200	11,300	5.2	215,300	202,800	12,500	5.8
Spokane MSA	171,300	161,300	10,000	5.8	168,700	158,300	10,400	6.2
Tacoma MSA	247,000	231,600	15,400	6.2	250,400	233,800	16,600	6.6
Tri-Cities MSA	70,600	65,500	5,100	7.2	68,000	62,500	5,500	8.1
Benton County 2/	54,300	50,400	3,900	7.2	52,300	48,100	4,200	8.0
Franklin County 2/	16,300	15,100	1,200	7.4	15,800	14,400	1,400	8.9
Vancouver PMSA	114,800	108,400	6,400	5.6	114,000	107,300	6,700	5.9
Yakima MSA	95,400	86,300	9,100	9.5	91,100	81,100	10,000	11.0
Adams	7,140	6,520	620	8.7	6,750	6,090	660	9.8
Asotin	9,120	8,590	530	5.8	8,770	8,210	560	6.4
Clallam	22,980	21,360	1,620	7.0	23,110	21,310	1,800	7.8
Columbia	3,450	3,260	190	5.5	3,310	3,050	260	7.9
Cowlitz	36,260	33,850	2,410	6.6	35,960	33,370	2,590	7.2
Ferry	2,750	2,450	300	10.9	2,720	2,350	370	13.6
Garfield	1,100	1,050	50	4.5	1,010	970	40	4.0
Grant	25,770	23,660	2,110	8.2	24,350	22,060	2,290	9.4
Grays Harbor	25,350	23,200	2,150	8.5	25,120	22,790	2,330	9.3
Island	19,170	18,250	920	4.8	18,720	17,740	980	5.2
Jefferson	7,760	7,340	420	5.4	7,760	7,280	480	6.2
Kittitas	11,470	10,350	1,120	9.8	11,510	10,100	1,410	12.3
Klickitat	8,160	7,210	950	11.6	7,850	6,710	1,140	14.5
Lewis	25,980	24,020	1,960	7.5	24,980	22,910	2,070	8.3
Lincoln	4,390	4,210	180	4.1	4,020	3,800	220	5.5
Mason	12,460	11,540	920	7.4	12,600	11,630	970	7.7
Okanogan	15,610	13,860	1,750	11.2	15,260	13,300	1,960	12.8
Pacific	6,490	5,980	510	7.9	6,400	5,850	550	8.6
Pend Oreille	3,050	2,620	430	14.1	3,030	2,510	520	17.2
San Juan	5,560	5,340	220	4.0	5,400	5,160	240	4.4
Skagit	32,530	29,600	2,930	9.0	32,750	29,380	3,370	10.3
Skamania	2,440	2,130	310	12.7	2,570	2,200	370	14.4
Stevens	11,580	10,650	930	8.0	11,450	10,220	1,230	10.7
Wahkiakum	1,140	1,060	80	7.0	1,140	1,050	90	7.9
Walla Walla	25,590	24,300	1,290	5.0	24,630	22,960	1,670	6.8
Wenatchee Labor Area	39,500	35,750	3,750	9.5	38,870	35,190	3,680	9.5
Chelan County 2/	27,110	24,190	2,920	10.8	26,730	23,820	2,910	10.9
Douglas County 2/	12,390	11,560	830	6.7	12,150	11,380	770	6.3
Whitman	18,980	18,400	580	3.1	18,960	18,440	520	2.7

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING AND OF NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS IN NONMANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES, STATE OF WASHINGTON

	Prelim May Production Workers/ Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		May-88	Apr-88	May-87	May-88	Apr-88	May-87	May-88	Apr-88	May-87
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES*	196.835	$474.26	$465.68	$481.99	40.5	39.7	40.3	$11.71	$11.73	$11.96
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Lumber and Wood Products	35.209	$435.71	$440.76	$426.80	39.9	40.4	38.8	$10.92	$10.91	$11.00
Primary Metal Industries	9,670	$531.79	$535.30	$546.62	43.2	43.1	43.8	$12.31	$12.42	$12.48
Fabricated Metal Products	8.236	$443.52	$440.61	$444.57	39.6	39.2	39.8	$11.20	$11.24	$11.17
Machinery	16.694	$380.49	$373.12	$381.28	39.8	39.4	39.8	$9.56	$9.47	$9.58
Food and Kindred Products	25.380	$350.58	$330.78	$374.46	37.9	34.6	39.5	$9.25	$9.56	$9.48
Chemical and Allied Products	4.249	$613.73	$590.30	$612.32	44.7	43.5	42.2	$13.73	$13.57	$14.51
Transportation Equipment	49.201	$580.21	$567.84	$609.65	42.6	42.0	41.9	$13.62	$13.52	$14.55
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction	70.689	$602.27	$590.87	$596.53	37.2	36.7	36.8	$16.19	$16.10	$16.21
Wholesale and Retail Trade (does not include eating and drinking establishments)	289.310	$316.77	$314.88	$319.30	33.1	32.8	33.4	$9.57	$9.60	$9.56

* Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bu of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

** Affected by labor-management disputes.

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